

MARTLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 1783.

translation of the preliminary articles of peace, between his Britannic Majesty and the Most Christian King; signed at Versailles the 20th of January, 1783.

In the name of the Most Holy TRINITY.

THE King of Great-Britain and the Most Christian King, equally animated with a desire of putting an end to the calamities of a destructive war, and of re-establishing union and good understanding between them, as necessary for the good of mankind in general, for that of their respective kingdoms, states, and subjects, have named for this purpose, viz. on the part of his Britannic Majesty Mr. Alleyne Fitz-Herbert, minister plenipotentiary of his said majesty the King of Great Britain; and on the part of his Most Christian Majesty, Charles Gravier, comte de Vergennes, councillor in all his councils, commander of his orders, councillor of state, minister and secretary of state, and of the commands and finances of his said majesty, for the department of foreign affairs; who, after having communicated to each other their full powers in good form, have agreed on the following preliminary articles:

Art. 1. As soon as the preliminaries shall be signed and ratified, sincere friendship shall be re-established between his Britannic Majesty and his Most Christian Majesty, their kingdoms, states, and subjects, by sea and by land, in all parts of the world. Orders shall be sent to the armies and squadrons, as well as to the subjects of the two powers, to stop all hostilities, and to live in the most perfect union, forgetting what is passed, of which their sovereigns give them the order and example. And, for the execution of this article, sea passes shall be given on each side for the ships which shall be dispatched to carry the news of it to the possessions of the said powers.

Art. 2. His majesty the King of Great-Britain shall restore in full right the island of Newfoundland, and the adjacent islands, in the same manner as the whole was ceded to him by the thirteenth article of the treaty of Utrecht, save the exceptions which shall be stipulated by the fifth article of the present treaty.

Art. 3. His Most Christian Majesty, in order to prevent quarrels which have hitherto arisen between the two nations of England and France, renounces the right of fishing, which belongs to him by virtue of the said article of the treaty of Utrecht, from Cape Bonaville to Cape St. John, situated on the eastern coast of Newfoundland, in about fifty degrees of north latitude; whereby the French fishery shall commence at the said Cape St. John, shall go round by the north, and, going down the western coast of the island of Newfoundland, shall have for boundary the place called Cape Raye, situated in 47 degrees 30 minutes latitude.

Art. 4. The French fishermen shall enjoy the fishery assigned them by the foregoing article, as they have a right to enjoy it by virtue of the treaty of Utrecht.

Art. 5. His Britannic Majesty will cede in full right to his Most Christian Majesty the islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon.

Art. 6. With regard to the right of fishing in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, the French shall continue to enjoy it conformably to the 5th article of the treaty of Paris.

Art. 7. The King of Great Britain shall restore to France the island of St. Lucia, and shall cede and guarantee to her that of Tobago.

Art. 8. The most Christian King shall restore to Great-Britain the islands of Grenada and the Grenadines, St. Vincent, Dominica, St. Christopher's, Nevis, and Montserrat; and the fortresses of those islands conquered by the arms of Great-Britain and by those of France, shall be restored in the same condition in which they were when the conquest of them was made, provided that the term of eighteen months, to be computed from the time of the ratification of the definitive treaty, shall be granted to the respective subjects of the crowns of Great-Britain and France, who may have settled in the said islands, and in other places which shall be restored by the definitive treaty, to sell their estates, recover their debts, and to transport their effects and retire without being restrained, on account of their religion, or any other whatever, except in cases of debt or of criminal prosecutions.

Art. 9. The King of Great-Britain shall cede and guarantee in full right to his Most Christian Majesty the river of Senegal and its dependencies, with the forts of St. Louis, Podor, Galam, Arguin, and Portendou. His Britannic Majesty shall restore, likewise, the island of Goree, which shall be given up in the condition in which it was when the British arms took possession of it.

Art. 10. The most Christian King shall, on his side, guarantee to his majesty, the King of Great-Britain, the possession of Fort James, and of the river Gambia.

Art. 11. In order to prevent all discussions in that part of the world, the two courts shall agree, either by the definitive treaty, or by a separate act, upon the boundaries to be fixed to their respective possessions. The same trade shall be carried on as formerly as the English and French nation carried it on before the year 1755.

Art. 12. In regard to the rest of the coasts of Africa, the subjects of both powers shall continue to frequent them, according to the custom which has prevailed hitherto.

Art. 13. The King of Great-Britain shall restore to his Most Christian Majesty all the establishments which belonged to him at the commencement of the present

war on the coast of Orixia, and in Bengal, with liberty to surround Chandernagor with a ditch for draining the waters; and his Britannic Majesty engages to take such measures as may be in his power for securing to the subjects of France, in that part of India, as also on the coast of Orixia, Coromandel, and Malabar, a safe, free, and independent trade, such as was carried on by the late French East India company, whether it be carried on by them as individuals or as a company.

Art. 14. Pondicherry, as well as Karikal, shall likewise be restored, and guaranteed to France; and his Britannic Majesty shall procure, to serve as a dependency round Pondicherry, the two districts of Valanour and Bahour; and as a dependency round Karikal, the four contiguous Magans.

Art. 15. France shall again enter into possession of Mahé, and of the Comptoir at Surat; and the French shall carry on commerce in this part of India conformably to the principles laid down in the thirteenth article of this treaty.

Art. 16. In case France has allies in India, they shall be invited, as well as those of Great-Britain, to accede to the present pacification; and for that purpose a term of four months, to be computed from the day on which the proposal shall be made to them, shall be allowed them to make their decision; and in case of refusal on their part, their Britannic and Most Christian Majesties agree not to give them any assistance, directly or indirectly, against the British or French possessions, or against the ancient possessions of their respective allies; and their said majesties shall offer them their good offices towards a mutual accommodation.

Art. 17. The King of Great-Britain, desirous of giving his Most Christian Majesty a sincere proof of reconciliation and friendship; and of contributing to the solidity of the peace which is on the point of being re-established, will consent to the abrogation and suppression of all the articles relative to Dunkirk, from the treaty of peace concluded at Utrecht in 1713, inclusively to this time.

Art. 18. By the definitive treaty, all those which have existed till now between the two high contracting parties, and which shall not have been derogated from either by the said treaty or by the present preliminary treaty, shall be renewed and confirmed; and the two courts shall name commissioners to enquire into the state of commerce between the two nations, in order to agree upon new arrangement of trade, on the footing of reciprocity and mutual convenience. The said two courts shall together amicably fix a competent term for the duration of that business.

Art. 19. All the countries and territories which may have been, or which may be, conquered in any part of the world whatsoever, by the arms of his Britannic Majesty, or by those of his Most Christian Majesty, and which are not included in the present articles, shall be restored without difficulty, and without requiring compensation.

Art. 20. As it is necessary to assign a fixed epoch for the restitutions and the evacuations to be made by each of the high contracting parties, it is agreed, that the King of Great-Britain shall cause to be evacuated the islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon, three months after the ratification of the definitive treaty, or sooner if it can be done; St. Lucia in the West-Indies, and Goree in Africa, three months after the ratification of the definitive treaty, or sooner if it can be done. The King of Great Britain shall, in like manner, at the end of three months after the ratification of the definitive treaty, or sooner if it can be done, enter again into possession of the islands of Grenada, the Grenadines, St. Vincent, Dominica, St. Christopher's, Nevis, and Montserrat.

France shall be put into possession of the towns and comptoirs, which are restored to her in the East-Indies, and of the territories which are procured for her, to serve as dependencies round Pondicherry, and round Karikal, six months after the ratification of the definitive treaty, or sooner if it can be done.

France shall at the end of the same term of six months, restore the towns and territories which her arms may have taken from the English or their allies in the East-Indies.

In consequence whereof, the necessary orders shall be sent by each of the high contracting parties, with reciprocal passports for the ships which shall carry them, immediately after the ratification of the definitive treaty.

Art. 21. The prisoners made respectively by the arms of his Britannic Majesty, and his Most Christian Majesty, by land and by sea, shall be restored reciprocally, and bonâ fide, immediately after the ratification of the definitive treaty, without ransom, and on paying the debts they may have contracted during their captivity; and each crown shall respectively reimburse the sums which shall have been advanced for the subsistence and maintenance of their prisoners, by the sovereign of the country where they shall have been detained, according to the receipts and attested accounts, and other authentic titles which shall be produced on each side.

Art. 22. In order to prevent all causes of complaint and dispute which may arise on account of prizes which may be made at sea after the signing of these preliminary articles, it is reciprocally agreed, that the vessels and effects, which may be taken in the Channel and the North Seas, after the space of twelve days, to be computed from the ratification of the present preliminary

articles, shall be restored on each side. That the term shall be one month from the Channel and North Seas, as far as the Canary Islands, inclusively, whether in the Ocean or in the Mediterranean; two months from the said Canary Islands, as far as the Equinoctial line or Equator; and lastly, five months in all other parts of the world, without any exception or any other more particular description of time and place.

Art. 23. The ratification of the present preliminary articles, shall be expedited in good and due form, and exchanged in the space of one month, or sooner if it can be done, to be computed from the day of the signature of the present articles.

In witness whereof, we, the underwritten ministers plenipotentiary of his Britannic Majesty, and of his Most Christian Majesty, by virtue of our respective full powers, have signed the present preliminary articles, and have caused the seal of our arms to be put thereto.

Done at Versailles, the 20th day of January, 1783.

(L. S.) A. LEYNE FITZ-HERBERT.

(L. S.) GRAVIER DE VERGENNES.

Translation of the preliminary articles of peace, between his Britannic Majesty and the Most Catholic King; signed at Versailles the 20th of January, 1783.

In the name of the Most Holy TRINITY.

THE King of Great-Britain and the King of Spain, equally animated with a desire of putting an end to the calamities of a destructive war, and of re-establishing union and good understanding between them, as necessary for the good of mankind in general, as for that of their respective kingdoms, states, and subjects, have named for this purpose, viz. on the part of his majesty the King of Great-Britain, Mr. Alleyne Fitz-Herbert, minister plenipotentiary of his said majesty, and on the part of his majesty the King of Spain, Don Peter Paul Abarea de Bolea Ximenes d'Urnes, &c. count of Aranda and Castel Florido, marquis of Torres, of Villanar and Rupit, viscount of Ruda and Yoch; baron of the Baronies of Gavin, Sietana, Clamora, Enipol, Tranzmoz, La Maty de Cailil, Viego, Antillon, La Almonda, Corfes, Jorva, St. Genis, Robovillet, Orea, and St. Colome de Farne's, lord of the Tenence, and Honor of Alcalaten, the Valley of Rodellar, the castles and towns of Maella, Meiones, Tierana, de Villapiana, Taradell, and Villadran, &c. Rico Hombre in Aragon, by birth, grandee of Spain of the first class, knight of the order of the golden fleece, and of that of the Holy Ghost, gentleman of the king's bed-chamber in employment, captain-general of his armies, and his ambassador to his Most Christian Majesty; who, after having duly communicated to each other their full powers in good form, have agreed on the following preliminary articles:

Art. 1. As soon as the preliminaries shall be signed and ratified, sincere friendship shall be established between his Britannic Majesty and his Catholic Majesty, their kingdoms, states, and subjects, by sea and by land, in all parts of the world. Orders shall be sent to the armies and squadrons, as well as to the subjects of the two powers, to stop all hostilities, and to live in the most perfect union, forgetting what has passed, of which their sovereigns give them the order and example, and for the execution of this article, sea passes shall be given on each side for the ships which shall be dispatched to carry the news of it to the possessions of the said powers.

Art. 2. His Catholic Majesty shall keep the island of Minorca.

Art. 3. His Britannic Majesty shall cede to his Catholic Majesty East-Florida, and his Catholic Majesty shall keep West-Florida, provided that the term of eighteen months, to be computed from the time of the ratification of the definitive treaty, shall be granted to the subjects of his Britannic Majesty, who are settled as well in the island of Minorca as in the two Floridas, to sell their estates, recover their debts, and to transport their effects, as well as their persons, without being restrained on account of their religion, or under any other pretence whatsoever, except that of debts and criminal prosecutions; and his Britannic Majesty shall have power to cause all the effects that may belong to him in East-Florida, whether artillery or others, to be carried away.

Art. 4. His Catholic Majesty shall not for the future, suffer the subjects of his Britannic Majesty, or their workmen, to be disturbed or molested, under any pretence whatsoever, in their occupation of cutting, loading, and carrying away logwood, in a district of which the boundaries shall be fixed, and for this purpose they may build without hindrance, and occupy without interruption, the houses and magazines necessary for them, for their families and for their effects, in a place to be agreed upon, either in the definitive treaty or within six months after the exchange of the ratifications; and his said Catholic Majesty assures to them by this article, the entire enjoyment of what is above stipulated; provided that these stipulations shall not be considered as derogatory in any respect from the rights of his sovereignty.

Art. 5. His Catholic Majesty shall restore to Great-Britain, the islands of Providence and the Bahamas, without exception, in the same condition in which they were, when they were conquered by the arms of the King of Spain.

Art. 6. All the countries and territories which may have been, or may be conquered in any part of the world whatsoever, by the arms of his Britannic Ma-